



Feral Hog Awareness

in Fort Worth and Tarrant County

Safety Tips

- Avoid walking through dense undergrowth where feral hogs may be encountered. This is especially true in the spring when mother pigs may be protective of their litters.
- Do not approach a feral hog. Return the way you came or detour the area.
- Keep pets confined to securely fenced areas. Walk dogs on leash and keep cats indoors.
- Keep dogs securely leashed in forested areas known to have feral hogs.
- Wait until feral hogs have left the area of their own accord before proceeding.
- Build sturdy fences to discourage hogs from foraging on private property. Lawns and gardens of homes in wooded areas near creek beds are especially attractive to the hogs.

Animal Care and Control may respond to large wildlife sightings by:

- Investigating the report.
- Notifying DFW Wildlife Coalition, which records area sightings.
- Notifying Texas Parks and Wildlife or Animal Damage Control if their assistance is needed.
- Conducting door-to-door canvassing with educational information.

Texas Parks and Wildlife may conduct wildlife awareness training sessions for the public.



Description: Feral hogs are free-ranging versions of domestic pigs that escaped from farms in times past and can vary in color and appearance. Unlike other large nuisance wildlife, they are not native to North America. Some can weigh more than 400 lbs. although most are 200 lbs. or less. Like dogs, they have keen hearing and smell. In Texas, the number of feral hogs has increased, sometimes presenting problems for property owners.

Family groups called “sounders” usually comprised of two females (sows) and young pigs often travel together. Males (boars) usually travel alone. All adult hogs can be very dangerous if cornered.

Habitat: Feral hogs adapt to locations where there is sufficient food, water and cover, but prefer bottomlands and other wetlands near oak forests. In populated areas, they are attracted to protected, forested areas with waterways to provide easy travel routes.

Diet: Feral hogs are omnivorous, eating both plant and animal foods. Acorns and other nuts are favorites. They will root through the soil for tasty plant roots, bulbs and insects. Small animals, bird eggs and young livestock are also food sources. In the city, they are attracted to bird feeders, gardens, lawns and oak groves.

Status: Hunting feral hogs on private property using “lawful means” is allowed with a hunting license. Inside the city limits, where hunting is not allowed, live trapping can be effective. Notify the Animal Care and Control Division if the hogs present a threat or are causing damage to property.

Report sightings and questions regarding feral hogs in Fort Worth to:

**Animal Care and Control at 817-392-3737 or
DFW Wildlife Coalition at 972-234-WILD.**

**Report ANY animal bite to Animal Care and Control at
817-392-3737.**